

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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DISTRICT NO. 64
MONROE, ESCAMBIA, CONECUH
AND BALDWIN COUNTIES

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NCSL-EDUCATION

October 13, 2009

Julius Genachowski, Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: Broadband Industry Practices, FCC Docket #: 07-52

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I have the privilege of representing House District 64, which includes Baldwin, Conecuh, Escambia and Monroe counties, in the Alabama legislature. I appreciate the many difficult issues you and your colleagues grapple with particularly considering the changes that have occurred in technology and communications over the last thirty years. I agree with the FCC's goal of preserving a free and open Internet.

During the 2009 legislative session I was a supporter of SB 373, a communications bill that reduced regulations on telephone and cable communications companies and encouraged both wireline and wireless competition. The bill was also designed encourage investment in Alabama's communication infrastructure and help create and preserve good paying jobs. I also support Governor Riley's Broadband Initiative with the goal of making broadband more widespread, especially in many of the rural areas I represent. However, I believe we need to encourage private sector investment as the best way to make broadband ubiquitous. Therefore, in order to promote innovation, investment and competition, the FCC should not impose Network Neutrality regulations on wireless networks.

I think it would be prudent to consider the potential unintended consequences Net Neutrality regulations could have by discouraging new private sector investment and innovation. The wireless industry is very competitive. The system is working, so please don't impose onerous government regulations where the private market is clearly working.

Sincerely.

Harry Shiver